

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

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RICHARD L. STALDER, SECRETARY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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DOC Recognizes Outstanding Employees for 2005

(Baton Rouge) On Thursday, May 18, 2006, Department of Public Safety and Corrections Secretary Richard L. Stalder hosted three hundred (300) employees and some of their family members during the Department's annual Employee Memorial Service and Awards Ceremony.

The Memorial Service included a moving tribute to the eight correctional and probation and parole officers killed in the line of duty during the department's history and to the twenty (20) employees or retired employees who passed away during 2005. Each employee's sacrifice and dedication were marked with a single red rose, followed by a remembrance reading.

Many employees were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Department and to overall public safety during the Employee Awards Ceremony.

Distinguished Service Awards, which recognize employees who act courageously to protect life or property during a work related emergency situation, were presented to Colonel Tim Delaney, Lieutenant Willie Smith, Sergeant Jerry White and Sergeant Donald Porter of Louisiana State Penitentiary.

Others honored for their service to the Department include:

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- Master Sergeant Scott Cottrell (David Wade Correctional Center) – Correctional Officer of the Year
- Chaplain Paul Murray (Avoyelles Correctional Center) – Support Employee of the Year
- Colonel Lane Thomas (Dixon Correctional Institute) – Supervisor of the Year
- Kim Lindsay (New Orleans District) – Probation and Parole Officer of the Year

Many employees were honored with the Secretary's Award of Excellence, which distinguishes those who, by work habit and performance on a special project or initiative, provide a major benefit to the Department and its overall mission. Those receiving the Secretary's Award of Excellence for 2005 are:

- Major John Smith of Dixon Correctional Institute, who was also recognized as National Supervisor of the Year by the International Association of Correctional Officers and recently accepted that award in Washington, D.C.
- Assistant Warden Janet Lorena, Dixon Correctional Institute
- Susan Richardson-Kean, Elayn Hunt Correctional Center
- Deputy Warden Loetia Young, Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women
- Assistant Warden Leslie Dupont, Louisiana State Penitentiary
- Master Sergeant Michael Hughes, Washington Correctional Center
- Debbier Allen and Sonya Hutchinson, Jefferson District Probation and Parole
- Mike Phelps, Covington District Probation and Parole
- Tom Riker, Headquarters
- Ashley Gautreaux and Byron Decoteau, Headquarters

In addition, the efforts of all Department employees assisting in the evacuation and housing of more than 10,000 inmates during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita were recognized and honored by Secretary Stalder and the Louisiana Association of Wardens with a plaque in Memorial Circle.

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